Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 02981 180348Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 NSCE-00 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-20

DRC-01 /122 W

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R 180303Z MAR 74 FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9982 INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI AMEMBASSY TOKYO USLO PEKING

CONFIDENTIAL HONG KONG 2981

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA PFOR PINT CH J

SUBJ: PRC DELAYS VISIT TO JAPAN

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SUMMARY: CHINESE HAVE PUT OFF UNTIL LATTER HALF OF THIS YEAR VISIT TO JAPAN IN RESPONSE TO INVITATION OF JAPAN-CHINA ECONOMIC INTERCHANGE ASSOCIATION. ANTI-LIN, ANTI-CONFUCIUS MOVEMENT WAS GIVEN AS THE REASON FOR THE DELAY. END SUMMARY.

1. JAPAN -CHINA ECONOMIC INTERCHANGE ASSOCIATION (JCEIA) SOME TIME AGO EXTENDED AN INVITATION FOR THE CHINESE TO VISIT JAPAN. IT HAS BEEN DEALING WITH THE INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE (IIT) WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THE PRC MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE. IIT OFFICIALS RECENTLY SAID THAT A VISIT TO JAPAN IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR WOULD NOT BE CONVENIENT BUT THEY INDICATED THAT A VISIT IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HONG K 02981 180348Z

LATTER HALF OF THIS YEAR WOULD BE POSSIBLE.

- 2. AT FIRST NO EXPLANATION WAS GIVEN, BUT WHEN PRESSED BY JCEIA, IIT OFFICIALS CITED THE ANTI-LIN, ANTI-CONFUCIUS MOVEMENT AS THE REASON.
- 3. JAPANESE CONGEN ECONOMIC OFFICER TAKAHASHI PASSED US THIS INFORMATION SAYING THAT HE HAD LEARNED IT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF JCEIA WHO HAD RECENTLY PASSED THROUGH HONG KONG ON HIS WAY BACK FROM PEKING. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

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4. THE VISIT ITSELF DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE AN IMPORTANT ONE. AGAIN, AS IN THE EARLY CASE OF A REPORTED DELAY IN EXPORT DELIVERIES (HONG KONG 2624), THE DELAY IS RELATIVELY UNIMPORTANT, WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT IS THAT CHINESE OFFICIALS HAVE BEGUN SO EARLY TO CITE --- THIS TIME TO FOREIGNERS -- THE MOVEMENT AS THE REASON FOR THE DELAY. DESPITE PEKING'S PUBLIC STANCE THAT THE MOVEMENT IS NOT SUPPOSED TO AFFECT FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AT LEAST SOME RESPONSIBLE CHINESE OFFICIALS OF DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED FEEL IT HAS ALREADY HAD SOME EFFECTS AND ARE SAYING SO.

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Subject: PRC DELAYS VISIT TO JAPAN BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

TAGS: BTRA, PFOR, PINT, CH, JA, JCEIA

To: STATE

Type: TE

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